red eye

Monday
DECEMBER 14, 2009

redeyechicago.com
A Chicago Tribune publication

★ FREE ★

metromix
New Year's Eve, but not the same old party *17*

Second City alums celebrate 50 funny years *7*

Bears definitely not leaders of the Pack *12*

THIS MIGHT HURT

From blurred vision to arthritis, desk jobs can take a toll on your body. How to make a stand against the sitting disease.

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2do

» Got an event you'd like to see in 2do? Tweet us #redeye2do or e-mail redeye2do@hotmail.com.

To gift
Be one of the first 500 shoppers to spend more than $150 and receive a $20 gift card Monday at The 900 Shops (900 N. Michigan Ave.). The offer also is available Dec. 21.

To joke
Send someone a lump of coal in a stylish box for Christmas through **coalgram.com** and a portion of the proceeds goes to charity.

To ride
Sign up for the 2010 Bike the Drive by Dec. 24 and save $7 off the $42 registration fee. Visit **bikethedrive.org** for information.

Bike the Drive
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AP PHOTOS

Aye, aye caption

Text us a funny caption for the photo above and we'll print the best in RedEye. Text the word **"caption"** followed by your brief caption and your name to **87708.** Good luck!

FRIDAY'S WINNING CAPTION

"I see your Schwartz is as big as mine!"

—MELANIE SMITH

38 23

TODAY'S FORECAST

Cloudy, maybe some rain. Must be Monday.

TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.
26 10	27 12	28 18	31 20
Hello, cold front.	Please, stay a while.	Enough already. Leave!	Uh, that's better.

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Count on it

A quick look at some of the biggest talkers of the day, numerically speaking.

$1.1 trillion

The Senate on Sunday passed a $1.1 trillion spending bill with increased budgets for vast areas of the federal government including health, education, law enforcement and veterans' programs.

The 1,000-page-plus package, one of the last essential chores of Congress this year, passed 57-35 and now goes to President Obama for his signature.

The weekend action underlined the legislative crush faced by Congress as it tries to wind up the year. After the vote, the Senate immediately returned to debate on health care legislation that has consumed its time and energy for weeks. Senate Democrats hope to reach a consensus in the coming days on Obama's chief domestic priority.

Danish police arrest demonstrators Sunday outside the U.N. climate change conference in Copenhagen. AP

350

Danish police outnumbered protesters Sunday, detaining more than 200 people on a second day of demonstrations as environment ministers met for informal talks to advance negotiations on a new pact.

Meanwhile, church bells in Denmark and other countries rang 350 times, a number that refers to what many scientists consider a safe level of carbon dioxide in the air, measured in parts per million.

A Walt Disney World monorail train. AP FILE

300

A power failure stranded about 300 passengers for a couple hours Sunday aboard three monorail trains at Walt Disney World. Bo Jones of the Reedy Creek Fire Department says no one was injured when the monorail system lost power around 1 a.m.

Jones says firefighters used ladders to assist some visitors aboard one train "more out of customer service than as an emergency situation." Other passengers disembarked later when the trains were towed to nearby stations.

The 15-mile monorail service was restored by the time the parks opened later Sunday morning.

An electrical short disrupted the monorail service in September.

12

Drew Brooksher may not know how to make the best-tasting coleslaw, but he can supply any kitchen in Athens with a colossal serving of the main ingredient.

The fourth-grader at South Jackson Elementary School spent 12 weeks tending a special variety of cabbage that didn't stop growing. Now, he's the Georgia winner of this year's national cabbage-growing competition organized by Bonnie Plants, an Alabama-based company that supplies gardeners with vegetable and herb seedlings.

"It was about 4 feet wide and 26 pounds," said Drew's mother, Reesa Brooksher. "It was huge."

2nd

Buckingham Palace has denied a newspaper report that the queen is passing more of her duties to her grandson, Prince William (above).

Royal spokesman Miguel Head said the report that William, 27, is being groomed to be "shadow king," bypassing his father Prince Charles, is nonsense.

The Mail on Sunday said on its front page that the queen is handing over a substantial part of her public duties to the prince to ease the 83-year-old monarch's work load. The report said it obtained a classified Treasury note showing the prince will incur more expenses because he will be undertaking duties on behalf of the queen.

Head said Sunday that William is gradually taking on more political duties as he gets older, but his focus remains on his military career.

$13,000

Author Stephen King (above) and his wife are donating money so 150 soldiers from the Maine Army National Guard can come home for the holidays.

King and his wife, Tabitha, who live in Bangor, are paying $13,000 toward the cost of two bus trips so that members of the 3rd Battalion, 172nd Infantry Unit can travel from Camp Atterbury in Indiana to Maine for Christmas. The soldiers left Maine last week for training at Camp Atterbury. They are scheduled to depart for Afghanistan in January.

Julie Eugley, one of King's personal assistants, told the Bangor Daily News that the Kings were approached about giving $13,000.

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TWEET OF THE WEEK
(Tell me your personal story, Conan, and I'll tell you mine. You don't have to wait until next year.)

@tonyafathead
Now that my kids can operate the guide function on the remote, we've seen just about every Christmas special this season. Learning is power.

The story of 2010, told by 365 voices

365 days told by 365 different people.

That's how self-professed Chicago geeks Len Kendall and Daniel Honigman describe the 3six5project.

The goal, they said, is to have a different person every day in 2010 write a 250-word reflection about their experience that day.

Through Twitter and e-mail, I asked Kendall and Honigman to provide some insight into the social media-fueled project. For the extended interview, please go to **redeyechicago.com.**

In 140 characters or less , describe what you want to get out of the project.

Daniel: My goal is to get a meaningful, collaborative narration of the year 2010 that inspires people to reflect on the important moments in their lives.

Len: My goal for the3six5 is to get (and share) a rare snapshot of the lives of many people I'd otherwise never encounter.

My goal for the3six5 is to get (and share) a rare snapshot of the lives of many people I'd otherwise never encounter.

Tell me about the participants. Are you accepting everyone and the date of their choosing?

Daniel: We want to get a nice mix of folks. We could easily get 365 people from Twitter alone to participate, but variety's the spice of life, so we try to be a bit selective.

Len: This project is an attempt to share the collective consciousness of all of us throughout the year 2010 and the best way to do that is to have a broad sample of people. We've been poring through hundreds of submissions, reading through people's stories and trying to find the best authors to tell our (everyone's) story.

What about you guys? Will you be contributing? If so, what dates did you choose and why?

Daniel: We were actually going to pick Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, but we figured we'd just write the prologue/epilogue. We're probably not as interesting as the folks on the list, so we opened it up to them. If I were to pick a day, I would have picked Sept. 11—it's the day of 9/11 and it's the first day my girlfriend Mollie and I started dating.

Len: I would go with Jan. 28. It's the day 30+ years ago that my family (before me) came to this country from what was then the Soviet Union. I would use my day to show the tremendous shift in my families timeline from then until now.

If you are interested in becoming an author, e-mail **the3six5@gmail.com** and include what unique perspective you could bring to the table. I'd love to hear your thoughts on the project. Tweet me, poke me, wave at me—just tell me.

SOMEONE YOU KNOW
I'll be participating in the project Sept. 8.

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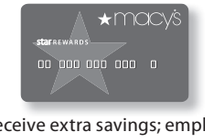

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chicago

Alumni Jack McBrayer (front) and Martin Garcia perform Saturday during "The Second City Alumni: One Night Only." CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE

Very funny

Second City alumni descend on Chicago to celebrate 50 years of comedy

Chicago Tribune

The late-night "SCTV" reunion show was being simulcast in three screening rooms upstairs from the mainstage at Second City's blowout 50th anniversary weekend, but Richard Kind wasn't watching.

"I didn't come here to look at a screen," the "A Serious Man" co-star and former cast member scoffed while mingling in the crowded "alumni lounge" hallway. "I don't even want to see them perform. All I want to do is sit, drink and talk and 'how are you' and talk about old times."

Kind eventually would change his mind about watching his fellow alumni onstage. The lure of seeing the "SCTV" cast (Catherine O'Hara, Eugene Levy, Harold Ramis, Andrea Martin, Joe Flaherty, Dave Thomas and Martin Short) on Friday night and dozens more gifted performers in two epic shows Saturday proved irresistible.

Regardless of their post-Second City fame level, the returning cast members found as much excitement and inspiration off the stage as on it over the weekend. If only high school reunions were this entertaining, exhausting and emotionally satisfying.

Jim Belushi and his son, Rob Belushi

"When we were rehearsing before—this sounds very corny—but I got chills going through some of these scenes because they were such strong and positive memories that I have of this place, and they all came rushing back," Steve Carell said Saturday evening while renewing connections in the lounge area. "You move away and you do other things, but then when you come back you are reminded once again of the importance to your life."

Jim Belushi wasn't buying the high school reunion comparison. "High school [reunions] you're trying to [anger] the girls that you liked that didn't like you," he said in the wee hours of Sunday morning, after he and his son, Rob, had performed the classic, bracingly dark "White Horse Tavern" sketch. "This has nothing to do with that. This has to do with seeing people that you love, you've grown to love because of the connection you have onstage, and to see them again fills your heart."

LATE NIGHT TREATS

The official Second City cast party was Saturday afternoon, with alumni shuttling in and out depending on when they had to rehearse sketches they'd be performing later that night. But, really, the party started on Friday's chartered flight from Los Angeles to Chicago ("The minute they said we were at 10,000 feet, everyone was up, drinking," Nia Vardalos, writer-star of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," said.)

» The 7 p.m. Saturday general-public show ran so long—nearly four hours—that the 11 p.m. alumni-only show didn't start until 12:15 a.m., even with Second City executive vice president Kelly Leonard asking for volunteers not to perform.

» By 2 a.m. the theater audience had become sparse while the adjacent bar was rocking to the gabbing and laughter of Belushi, Bonnie Hunt, George Wendt, Danny Breen, Holly Wortel, Jack McBrayer and many others. Just past 2:15 a.m., the show was cut short with six sketches to go. The reunion was more important: There was a photo to be taken and cake to be cut onstage.

Bus Tracker access expands

Chicago Tribune

Commuters stopping for coffee at the Red Hen Bread bakery on North Milwaukee Avenue in Bucktown can also check to see when the next CTA bus will pull up at the corner, without leaving the cinnamon-toasty warmth of the store.

Estimated bus-arrival times sent directly from the CTA Bus Tracker system stream across the bottom of a flat-screen monitor installed at Red Hen and eight other businesses by the Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce. Community news and information about upcoming events fill the rest of the screen.

"It's still new, so a lot of people haven't figured out what it is yet. But once people realize it's Bus Tracker, they're all excited because it means you don't have to stand in the cold for that long," said Lisa Dellagiarino, 28, an employee at Red Hen.

The CTA on Monday will launch a developer tools Web page on the transit agency's Web site, **transitchicago.com**. The page will allow developers to more easily download Bus Tracker and other transit data for creating desktop applications, widgets and mobile applications, and present it to their audiences to help improve travel planning.

The pilot project represents an opportunity to greatly expand access to Bus Tracker (**ctabustracker.com**) information beyond computers, BlackBerrys, PDAs and other mobile devices.

Bus Tracker uses the global-positioning system to track the location of all 2,000 CTA buses. It provides estimated bus-arrival times at about 12,000 bus stops for all 150 CTA bus routes, offering transit commuters a chance to reduce waiting times and travel more comfortably, officials said.

Information provided through the Bus Tracker application program interface is updated every minute. Data are sent as soon as a request is received.

"This technology creates an opportunity for us to make data available for innovative uses by our riders and the public," said CTA spokeswoman Noelle Gaffney. "We are asking people using our data to tell us about it."

The CTA Bus Tracker Widget is among the independent programs already up and running for use by Mac computers.

It goes beyond providing estimated bus-arrival times by also displaying up to five arrival-time predictions for each bus stop and offering to track as many bus stops as the user requests.

Sick workers not staying home

For Veronica Mendoza, the message delivered by memo last month came across loud and clear: If you're sick, stay home. So when the 48-year-old food service worker recently came down with a runny nose, itchy eyes and other flulike symptoms, she wanted nothing more than to crawl into bed. But with no paid sick leave, she opted to punch the clock instead.

"I pretty much have to be at death's door before I'll call in sick," said Mendoza, a cafeteria worker for a company that contracts with schools in the Chicago area. "I try to be careful ... to cover my mouth and use hand sanitizer. But the kids look at me as if to say, 'Why are you even here?' "

RISKY BUSINESS
A survey last year by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago found that 68 percent of those not eligible for paid sick days said they had gone to work with a contagious illness like the flu.

Despite nationwide concern over the H1N1 virus and a barrage of announcements from public health officials imploring Americans to call in sick, many employees continue to drag themselves into the workplace, powered by Tylenol, lozenges and fistfuls of tissues.

The reasons for such fortitude can range from economic—as with Mendoza—to suspicions that the message is merely lip service. Pandemic or not, many staffers say, it's better to show up wheezing and sneezing than be perceived as a slacker, especially when jobs are scarce.

With only about 60 percent of all private sector workers getting compensated when they are ill, unions and other advocates have seized on the current flu outbreak as a way to bring new energy to an old issue. Paid sick leave, which is among the most expensive benefits offered by employers, is largely unavailable to many low-wage workers, such as food servers, janitors and home care aides—people at risk for infecting others.

Little League coach discusses youth's murder

As the investigation continued into the shotgun slaying of an 11-year-old boy that left his father in critical condition, the youth's former baseball coach said he hopes the shootings will prompt new tactics in addressing violence.

"I think we have to do things to strengthen our families," said Erwin McEwen, Director of the Department of Children and Family Services, who coached Ashton Wise for two years in the South Side Little League club, where he also got to know the boy's father, Kenneth Wise, 42.

McEwen said Sunday that organizations such as DCFS should not just target children who are abused or neglected but also should extend programs like parenting classes to more in the community. McEwen said he supports subsidizing recreational fees—such as for Little League—that low-income families cannot afford.

But he said the violence cannot be immediately halted and hoped citizens seek long-term strategies.

"We did not get into this situation overnight," he said. "Stop looking for the overnight solution."

Ashton and his father, both of the 6800 block of South East End Avenue, were shot just before 8:30 p.m. Friday near East 78th Street and South Kingston Avenue.

Off-duty fireman races up 28 flights to rescue woman

Durbin

Chicago firefighters quickly put out an extra-alarm fire in an upper floor apartment of a Gold Coast high rise Sunday as an off-duty firefighter rescued a woman from the building, running up 28 flights of stairs, then carrying her back down, fire officials said.

Officials called a 2-11 alarm at the Bryant House condominiums at 1455 N. Sandburg Terrace a little after 2 p.m. and the fire was put out by about 2:30 p.m.

The woman was taken in serious condition to Northwestern Memorial Hospital with possible smoke inhalation and burns, said Fire Department District Chief Jeff Springer. The woman, believed to be between 50 and 60 years old, lived alone in the duplex apartment on the 28th floor where the fire occurred, Springer said.

The cause of the fire is under investigation and it did not spread beyond the apartment, Springer said. The building is believed to have a sprinkler system in the lobby and common areas but not inside the apartment units themselves, Springer said.

A fire breaks out Sunday at the Bryant House condominiums in the Gold Coast. Jason Durbin, an off-duty firefighter, ran up 28 flights of stairs to rescue a woman from her burning apartment. LUIS ARROYAVE/ TRIBUNE

Jason Durbin, 33, an off-duty firefighter, said he was working a side job driving an ambulance for a private company. He was driving south on Clark Street after grabbing a hot dog when he looked up and saw smoke billowing out of a unit near the top of the building.

Durbin, has been with the fire department for 15 months.

Durbin said that he ran up to the woman's floor and found the woman conscious about halfway down the smoky hallway.

Stolen computers recovered

Two computers stolen from attorneys for ex-Gov. Blagojevich have been recovered by Chicago police, lawyer Sam Adam Jr. said Saturday. Adam said he has identified a pair of computers taken in the Dec. 4 break-in where eight computers and a safe were stolen from his firm's Woodlawn office. Adam said the recovered computers don't appear to contain sensitive evidence in the Blagojevich case.

Man shot, stabbed to death

A 24-year-old man was stabbed and shot to death Sunday down the street from his home in South Chicago. Deshawn Patton, of the 3000 block of East 79th Street, was found in an alley in the 2900 block of East 79th Street, said Chicago Police News Affairs Officer Laura Kubiak. His death was classified as a homicide, officials said.

Body of man found in Lake Michigan

The Chicago Police Marine Unit removed the body of an unidentified man from the North Branch of the Chicago River near Goose Island on Sunday, police said.

Authorities received a call from someone who spotted the body in the water just before 2:30 p.m., said Chicago Police News Affairs Officer John Mirabelli.

The Marine Unit removed the body from the 900 block of West Division St., underneath a bridge in the river near Division Street and Hooker Street about 3:45 p.m., Mirabelli said.

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1st gay mayor

1 Annise Parker has an unbeatable lead over Gene Locke in Houston's hotly contested mayoral election, meaning she will become the city's first openly gay mayor. The Harris County elections Web site says 53.62 percent of voters who turned out Saturday chose Parker. **AP PHOTO**

Search continues

2 Searchers used a helicopter Sunday to search for two missing climbers on Oregon's Mount Hood and were preparing take rescue and medical teams back to the area on a second try.

Dupre sex column

3 Ashley Dupre, the former call girl whose tryst with former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer led to his resignation last year, has a new gig. The New York Post has hired the 24-year-old to write a weekly advice column dealing with sex and relationships.

Italian Premier punched

4 Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi was punched in the face at the end of a rally Sunday by a man holding a small statue in his hand, leaving the 73-year-old media mogul with a bloodied mouth and looking stunned, police said.

Mosque vandalized

5 Police say assailants have scrawled a Nazi slogan and hung pig feet on a mosque in southern France. Interior Minister Brice Hortefeux has denounced the "vile and racist desecration" of the mosque in the town of Castres.

THE DIGIT

3 years

More than one in five borrowers of federal student loans who attend for-profit colleges default within three years of repayment, new figures made available Monday by the U.S. Department of Education show.

Knox 'scared' in Italian prison

6 **PERUGIA, Italy** Amanda Knox sounded casual, surprised even, by the simple question as it came through the door of her prison cell in English on Sunday: "How are you?"

"OK, thanks. How are you guys?" said the American student, who had been sentenced eight days earlier to 26 years in prison for the murder of her British roommate. But minutes later, Knox confided, in answer to a question from an Associated Press reporter in her cell: "I am scared because I don't know what is going on."

The 22-year-old, who is a cause celebre in the United States among those who contend she was wrongly convicted by the Perugia court, received a 10-minute visit inside the cell by two Italian lawmakers, prison officials and a pair of reporters in Capanne prison on the outskirts of Perugia.

Knox

Knox has been jailed for two years since she was arrested a few days after the slaying of Meredith Kercher in the house the two students shared in this medieval town.

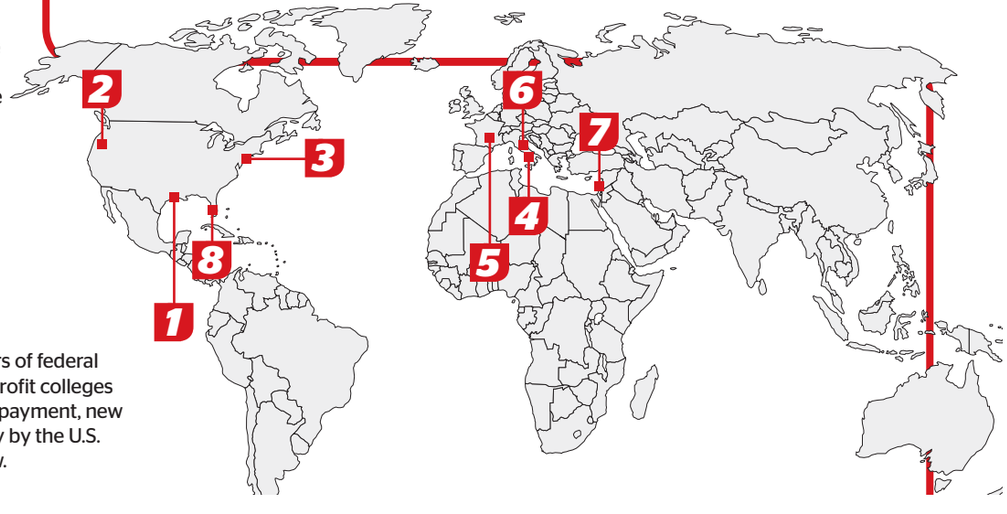
Kercher's body was found in a pool of blood with her throat slit Nov. 2, 2007, in the bedroom of the house in Perugia, a university town in Umbria, central Italy. Prosecutors said the Leeds University student was slain the previous night.

Three people, including Knox's Italian former boyfriend, have been convicted of sexual assault and murder.

"I am waiting and always hoping," Knox said, switching from English into Italian for the delegation. "I don't understand many things, but I have to accept them, things that for me don't always seem very fair."

Happy Hanukkah

7 An Ultra-Orthodox Jewish man stands in front a menorah Sunday on the third eve of Hanukkah, at the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site in Jerusalem's old city. The Jewish festival of light is an eight-day commemoration of the Jewish uprising in the second century B.C. against the Greek-Syrian kingdom, which had tried to put statues of Greek gods in the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. It began Friday. **AP**



Rottweiler kills toddler

8 **NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla.** Authorities say a Rottweiler attacked and killed a Florida toddler when the boy reached to pick up a cookie he had dropped.

Kevin Doll of the Pasco County Sheriff's Office says 20-month-old Dallas Walters was at his aunt's home during a party Saturday night. Doll says the dog attacked Dallas when the boy dropped a cookie and went to grab it.

Family members at the party managed to pry the dog off the child and then took him to a hospital. The boy later died.

Animal control has taken possession of the dog. Doll said Sunday that the incident is still under investigation, but appeared to be a "tragic accident."

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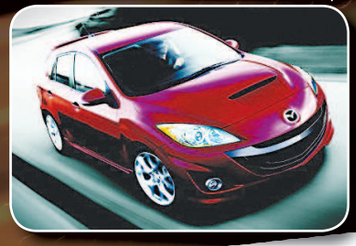

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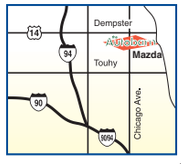

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sports

Jay Cutler is taken down in the fourth quarter Sunday by Tramon Williams. JOSÉ M. OSORIO/TRIBUNE

GREEN BAY 21, BEARS 14

Green monster

Packers sweep, officially knock Bears out of playoffs

Chicago Tribune

Bears nose tackle Marcus Harrison slumped by his locker, pulled his baseball cap down almost over his eyes, then mumbled under his breath when asked about Packers running back Ryan Grant's 62-yard touchdown sprint Sunday.

"Their bread-and-butter play that they run, and we practiced over and over, and I wasn't disciplined on it," Harrison said. "I was out of my gap. On that lead-weak ... y'all want to blame somebody, blame it on me."

There was enough blame to pass around as the Bears allowed Green Bay to escape Soldier Field with a 21-14 victory.

It was the first time the Bears (5-8) have been swept by their bitter rival under Lovie Smith, and the loss officially eliminated them from the playoffs for the third consecutive season.

NFC NORTH	W	L	PCT
* Minnesota	11	2	.846
Green Bay	9	4	.692
BEARS	5	8	.385
Detroit	2	11	.154

* Clinched playoff berth

The loss overshadowed a strong overall performance by the defense and the emergence of unheralded receiver Devin Aromashodu, who caught a career-high eight passes for 76 yards and a touchdown.

Quarterback Jay Cutler, who completed 23-of-36 passes for 209 yards, pointed the finger at himself for throwing two interceptions that led to 10 Green Bay (9-4) points.

Rookie receiver Johnny Knox, who adjusted his body to score on a 19-yard touchdown reception, absorbed some blame for Cutler's second interception: a momentum-changing, fourth-quarter theft courtesy of Packers safety Nick Collins. The ball was underthrown.

"It's frustrating when you and your quarterback are not on the same page," Knox said. "You want to build that confidence in each other. Sometimes, it's not always going to be there."

Fans were left to wonder if the coaching staff was on the same page late in the game, when the Bears called a timeout, then challenged what was ruled an incomplete pass from Cutler to Greg Olsen. Smith did not immediately challenge the play before calling the timeout. And since the ruling on the field stood, the Bears were charged with another timeout with 4 minutes, 51 seconds left and the Packers clinging to the seven-point lead.

"For the first timeout, things just weren't right and we needed to call a timeout to take care of some things," Smith said. "That is separate. After that, I had to make a decision on the situation about whether it was worth us challenging and possibly getting a first down. I made the decision. In the end, the timeout didn't really hurt us."

True, the Bears did have one last shot to tie the score and send the game into overtime, but Corey Graham's holding penalty on Earl Bennett's punt return—one of a season-high 13 penalties by the Bears—pinned the Bears at their own 9 for the final drive with no timeouts remaining.

Cutler's final fling on fourth down fell incomplete as the Bears moved all of 1 yard, thanks to a false start on Olin Kreutz.

"It seems like every time we got something going, something bad happened," Cutler said. "This is something that has happened all year to us."

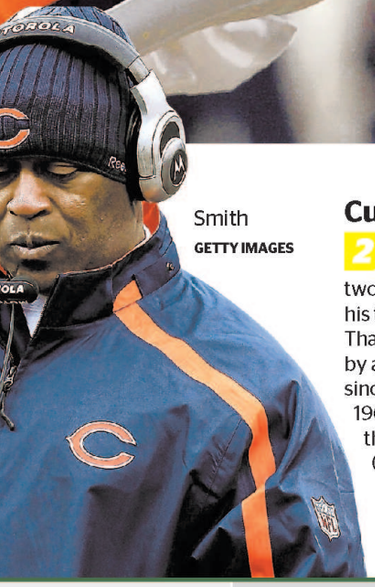
FOUR DOWNS

Some quick thoughts on Sunday's Bears game. TRIBUNE

Very challenging

1 Lovie Smith's decision to call a timeout and then challenge whether Greg Olsen made a fourth-quarter catch backfired, and the Bears should have known the call wouldn't be overturned. The unsuccessful challenge cost the Bears an additional timeout. Losing two timeouts on one play might be the most scrutinized game-day decision of this miserable Bears season, although Smith argued it didn't affect the outcome.

SUNDAY SCORES																
	N.Y. JETS	26	CAROLINA	10	CINCINNATI	10	**BUFFALO**	**16**	**MIAMI**	**14**	DENVER	16	SEATTLE	7	DETROIT	3
	TAMPA BAY	3	**NEW ENGLAND**	**20**	**MINNESOTA**	**30**	KANSAS CITY	10	JACKSONVILLE	10	**INDIANAPOLIS**	**28**	**HOUSTON**	**34**	**BALTIMORE**	**48**



Smith
GETTY IMAGES

MONDAY MOURNING | BY BAG BOY

Postseason's greetings and cheer

Goodbye, playoffs.

Playoffs!? PLAYOFFS!? Yes, with three games left in this miserable Bears season, the playoffs are out of reach.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not surprised. Unless you've been hiding out with Tiger in his mansion, you've seen this coming for several weeks.

Still, with Jay "The Savior" Cutler, Matt "Should-Have-Been-Rookie-of-the-Year" Forte and Lovie Smith back to calling the defensive plays, the Bears were supposed to do something this year.

Well, they did something all right. They stunk. They failed. They made me sick. You too I bet.

The Bears are so bad, I wish I didn't have to watch them the rest of the season. But, you know, this job and all requires it.

Just think, though, only 54 days until the Super Bowl. Who will be there? No, that's not a question. The Who will be there. Oh, forget it.

Cut up

2 Jay Cutler again put his team in a bad spot with two interceptions, bringing his total to 22 for the season. That's the most interceptions by a Bears quarterback since Bill Wade threw 24 in 1962, and Cutler is nine off the franchise record of 31 (in just 12 games) by Sid Luckman in 1947.

Foul play

3 So much for the Packers killing themselves with penalties. They had just four while the Bears had a season-high 13 for 109 yards. Chris Williams picked up three penalties, including a totally senseless major face mask against Clay Matthews.

Better luck next year

4 A 5-8 record is bad enough, but now that the Bears have been eliminated from the playoffs, they'll have a long time to think about getting swept by the rival Packers for the first time in the Smith era. The Bears can't even match their 9-7 record from last season, and the addition of Cutler was supposed to be worth at least two more wins. Time to start giving players such as Jamar Williams and Devin Aromashodu more extended looks in preparation for 2010.

NEW ORLEANS	**26**	**WASHINGTON**	**34**	ST. LOUIS	7	**PHILADELPHIA**	**45**
ATLANTA	23	OAKLAND	13	**TENNESSEE**	**47**	N.Y. GIANTS	38

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The good, the bad and the ugly this week in the NFL.

Sunday was a day of broken records in Indianapolis.

The Colts won a record 22nd straight game, giving them 114 wins this decade, topping the San Francisco 49ers of the 1990s.

With the Denver Broncos playing catch-up all day, Kyle Orton's favorite receiver set an NFL record with 21 receptions in a single game, topping Terrell Owens' 20.

Expect a T.O. tirade any minute now.

STUD OF THE WEEK
Dallas Clark
Besides having a cool name, the Indianapolis tight end (left) caught three touchdown passes in the Colts' record-breaking win.

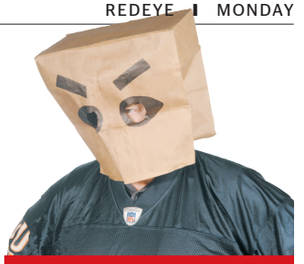
DUD OF THE WEEK
Seattle secondary
Houston's Andre Johnson blew up for 193 yards and two touchdowns against the Seahawks. Makes you wonder if he actually was covered.

THUD OF THE WEEK
Kevin Smith
As if the Lions didn't have enough problems, second-year running back Smith went down awkwardly after a catch, injuring his left knee. Then the Lions lost 48-3. AP PHOTO

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
San Francisco vs. Arizona
7:30 p.m. ESPN
Iron Mike might have to put on a uniform to help stop the high-octane Cardinals.

Sweater weather

Whether it was Bears weather or not, our panelists went cold with their answers again. You can play too at **redeyechicago.com/5on5.**



TOPIC	JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@chicagonow.com	BRIAN MOORE brmoore@tribune.com	ELLIOTT SERRANO redeyechicago.com/geektome	MARC SILVERMAN redeyesports@tribune.com	BAG BOY redeyesports@tribune.com
1 Devin Aromashodu or Devin Hester?	Like it matters.	Aroma, because the Bears stink.	Aromashodu since the Bears haven't ruined him ... yet.	Hester. Only because Thom Brennaman can actually pronounce his name.	How about Devin Almighty? That's who we need now.
2 Why do kickers always seem to miss field goals against the Bears?	Yes, the Bears should fire Lovie Smith.	Everyone misses their target in Soldier Field. Just ask Jay Cutler.	It's my patented "scarf down a chili dog at the snap" jinx. Works every time.	Ron Artest's Hennessy is in their water bottles. As Peyton would say, "drunk, idiot, kickers."	The Bears bring out the worst in everybody.
3 What is one thing the Bulls are doing right during their slump?	They haven't missed a meal once.	Failing to score as many points as their opponents. That's key.	No one's gotten arrested yet, right?	At least Vinny can win a Lloyd Braun look-alike contest—the only thing he's winning.	Figuring out how to repulse me in new and interesting ways.
4 What does Tiger Woods mean when he says he's taking an "indefinite leave" from golf?	He's saying that, like the rest of us, he doesn't like his lie.	"I'm taking my ball and going home."	He'll resume golf once he has as many sponsors as an episode of "Sesame Street."	That he's going to stop putting balls into holes.	"I need to figure out a way to not lose half my fortune."
5 Why would someone egg new Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly's house in Cincinnati?	Forward thinking.	He said he's going to miss a lot about Cincy except the Skyline Chili.	Bearcat fans tell me that's how Ohioans serve you breakfast in bed. How sweet.	They don't know where Dusty Baker lives.	Habit.

MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY

♿ Handicapped Access ◆Digital Sound
✔ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes 𝄞 Hearing - Impaired

G - General audience ***PG*** *- Parental guidence suggested*
PG-13 *- Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13*
R *- Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian*
NC-17 *- No one 17 and under admitted*

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily ♿
AMC Select - The best specialty films
- **Invictus** (PG–13) 1:20,4:45,7:50,10:50
- **Armored** (PG–13) 3:15,5:30,8:15,10:45
- **Brothers** (R) 2:10,5:00,8:00,10:40
- **Old Dogs** (PG) 2:20,4:50,7:10,9:30
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 1:15 P.M.
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 3:45,7:00,10:15
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 2:30,6:15,9:45
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) 1:35,4:00,6:30,9:00
- AMC Select **An Education** (PG–13) 4:15,7:20,10:00

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 2:00,4:50,7:15,9:30
- **Bad Lieutenant** (R) 1:55,4:40,7:25,10:10
- **A Serious Man** (R) 2:00,4:45,10:05
- **An Education** (PG–13) 1:45,4:20,7:00,9:45
- **Red Cliff** (R) 1:35,5:00,8:30
- **Coco Before** (PG–13) 1:30,7:10
- **New York** (R) 4:10,9:50
- **Breaking Point** (R) 1:50,4:25,7:35,9:55

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642
- **Inside Doctor's** (NR) ★ 6:30 P.M.
- **Princess-Frog** (G) ★ 12:10,2:00,2:40,4:30,5:10,6:50,7:30,9:10,9:50
- **Armored** (PG–13) ★ 12:50,3:10,5:30,8:00,10:30
- **Armored** (PG–13) ★ (Closed caption) 1:20,3:40,6:10,8:40,11:00
- **Brothers** (R) ★ 1:50,4:50,7:40,10:40
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 12:30,2:50,5:20,7:50,10:15
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 12:20,3:20,6:20,9:20
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:00,4:00,7:00,10:00
- **Planet 51** (PG) 1:30,3:50,6:05,8:30,10:45
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 12:40,1:10,3:30,6:30,9:30,10:20
- **2012** (PG–13) 3:00,6:40,10:10
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 2:10,4:40,7:10,9:40
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 2:20,5:00,8:15,10:50

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893
- **Invictus** (PG–13) ★ 4:50,7:30,10:10
- **Brothers** (R) 5:10,7:30,9:50
- **Everybody** (PG–13) 4:15,6:15,8:15,10:15
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 4:45,7:20,10:00

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
AMC Select - The best specialty films
- **Princess-Frog** (G) 1:00,2:00,3:10,4:20,5:25,6:40,7:45,9:00,10:00
- **Invictus** (PG–13) 1:20,4:15,7:05,9:55
- **Armored** (PG–13) 1:10,2:30,3:30,4:40,5:40,6:50,7:50,9:05,10:00
- **Everybody** (PG–13) 1:05,5:35,10:00
- **Old Dogs** (PG) 3:25,8:00
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 2:50,5:10,7:30,9:50
- **Planet 51** (PG) 2:25,4:50,7:15,9:30
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 1:00,2:20,3:50,5:20,6:45,8:20,9:40
- AMC Select **Precious: Novel** (R) 1:45,4:15,6:45,9:20
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:30,4:25,7:10,9:55
- **2012** (PG–13) 3:00,6:15,9:35
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) 1:55,4:30,7:00,9:25

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
312-846-2800
- **Make No** (NR) 6:00 P.M.
- **Antonio Gaudi** (NR) 6:15,7:45
- **Severed Ways** (NR) 8:00 P.M.

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628
- **Law Abiding** (R) 2:05,4:10,6:20,8:30
- **The Box** (PG–13) 2:10,4:20,6:30,8:40
- **Men Who Stare** (R) 2:00,4:00,6:05,8:10
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) 2:05,4:10,6:15,8:20

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604
- **Collapse** (NR) 5:20,7:20,9:40
- **The Red Shoes** (NR) 5:00,8:00

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)
1608 N. Wells, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
- AMC Select **The Road** (R) 2:00,4:30,7:00
- AMC Select **Boondock II** (R) 1:50,4:50,7:40
- AMC Select **The Messenger** (R) 2:30,5:20,8:00
- AMC Select **Good Hair** (PG–13) 5:05 P.M.
- **The Blues Bros.** (R) 2:15,7:20

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
AMC Select - The best specialty films
- AMC Select **Up in the Air** (R) 11:30,12:30,1:30,2:30,3:30,4:30, 5:30,6:30,7:30,8:30,9:30,10:30
- AMC Select **The Road** (R) 11:05,2:00,5:00,8:00,10:40
- **Living in** (NR) 6:30 P.M.
- **Princess-Frog** (G) 11:00,1:40,4:20,7:00,9:40
- **Princess-Frog** (G) 12:40,3:20,6:00,8:40
- **Invictus** (PG–13) 11:50,1:25,3:50,4:50,7:10,8:10,10:35
- **Larger Th** (PG) 12:45,3:15,5:45,8:15,10:45
- **Armored** (PG–13) 12:20,2:45,6:10,8:25,9:50,10:50
- **Brothers** (R) 11:10,1:55,4:55,7:45,10:30
- **Everybody** (PG–13) 11:15,2:05,4:40,7:20,10:05
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 11:40,2:15,4:35,7:05,9:25
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 1:15,4:00,6:45,9:20
- **Planet 51** (PG) 11:00,1:20,3:40
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 11:25,12:25,2:35,3:35,5:40,6:50,8:50,10:00
- AMC Select **Precious: Novel** (R) 11:20,2:10,5:00,7:55,10:40
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:35,4:45,7:50,10:45
- **2012** (PG–13) 3:10,6:40,10:10
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 11:45,2:20,5:05,7:40,10:20

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)
7000 Carperter Rd., Skokie
(800) 326-3264 #2309
- **Bad Lieutenant** (R) ★ 1:10,4:10,7:10,10:00
- **Invictus** (PG–13) ★ 12:30,1:00,3:20,4:00,6:20,7:00,9:20,10:20 *(continued)*

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES) (continued)
- **Princess-Frog** (G) ★ 12:10,1:50,2:40,4:20,5:10,6:50,7:30,9:10,9:50
- **Armored** (PG–13) ★ 1:20,3:45,6:05,8:20,10:35
- **Brothers** (R) ★ 2:10,5:00,7:40,10:15
- **Everybody** (PG–13) ★ 12:15,2:50,5:20,8:00,10:30
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 2:20,5:15,7:45,10:10
- **Old Dogs** (PG) 2:00,4:20,7:20,9:45
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 12:40,1:30,3:40,4:50,6:45,7:50,9:40,10:40
- **Planet 51** (PG) 1:15,3:50,6:15,9:15
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 12:30,3:30,6:30,9:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 12:50,2:30,4:45,6:10,8:10,9:55
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 1:45,4:15,6:40,9:00
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 1:40,4:30,7:15,10:05

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641
- **Inside Doctor's** (NR) ★ 6:30 P.M.
- **Invictus** (PG–13) ★ 12:50,3:00,4:00,6:15,7:00,9:30,10:10
- **Me and Orson** (PG–13) ★ 1:50,4:40,7:20,10:00
- **Up in the Air** (R) ★ 2:00,2:30,4:45,5:15,7:30,8:00,10:15,10:40
- **Up in the Air** (R) ★ 1:00,3:45,6:30,9:15
- **Brothers** (R) ★ 12:40,3:40,6:50,9:45
- **Everybody** (PG–13) ★ 1:10,3:50,6:20,9:00
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:15,4:15,7:15,10:20
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 1:30,4:30,7:40,10:30
- **2012** (PG–13) 10:05 P.M.

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1646
- **Invictus** (PG–13) ★ 12:20,1:00,3:20,4:00,6:20,7:00,9:30,10:00
- **Princess-Frog** (G) ★ 12:10,1:40,2:40,4:10,5:10,6:30,7:30,8:50,9:50
- **Armored** (PG–13) ★ 1:20,2:20,3:40,4:50,6:10,7:10,9:00,9:40
- **Everybody** (PG–13) ★ 9:20 P.M.
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 2:30,5:20,7:50,10:30
- **Old Dogs** (PG) 12:30,2:50,5:00,7:45,10:15
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:10,4:15,7:15,10:20
- **Planet 51** (PG) 1:15,3:50,6:50
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 1:30,4:30,7:40,10:40
- **2012** (PG–13) 3:00,6:40,10:10
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 2:00,4:20,6:45,9:10
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 1:50,4:40,7:20,9:55

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)
4779 W. Cermak
(800) 326-3264 #1644
- **Invictus** (PG–13) ★ 12:20,1:00,3:20,4:00,6:20,7:00,9:30,10:00
- **Princess-Frog** (G) ★ 12:10,1:40,2:40,4:10,5:10,6:30,7:30,8:50,9:50
- **Armored** (PG–13) ★ 1:20,2:20,3:40,4:50,6:10,7:10,9:00,9:40
- **Everybody** (PG–13) ★ 9:20 P.M.
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 2:30,5:20,7:50,10:30
- **Old Dogs** (PG) 12:30,2:50,5:00,7:45,10:15
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:10,4:15,7:15,10:20
- **Planet 51** (PG) 1:15,3:50,6:50
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 1:30,4:30,7:40,10:40
- **2012** (PG–13) 3:00,6:40,10:10
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 2:00,4:20,6:45,9:10
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 1:50,4:40,7:20,9:55

OAK PARK

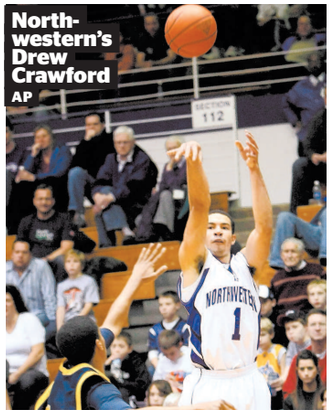
LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street
630-444-FILM #560
- **Princess-Frog** (G) 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00
- **Everybody** (PG–13) ★ 12:40,2:50,5:00,7:10,9:20
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 1:05,3:10,5:15,7:20,9:25
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 1:30,4:20,7:15,10:00
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:00,4:05,7:00,9:40
- **2012** (PG–13) 12:00,3:15,6:30,9:45
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 12:10,2:25,4:40,6:55,9:10

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 MAPLE AVE.
(847)492-0123 ♿
- **Christmas Carol** (PG) ★ 3:50,9:50
- **Inside Doctor's** (NR) ★ 6:30 P.M.
- **Invictus** (PG–13) ★ 11:40,12:50,2:40,4:05,5:40,7:10,8:40,10:10
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) ★ ◆ 2:35,8:35
- **Princess-Frog** (G) ★ 11:50,2:10,4:50,7:15,9:40
- **Up in the Air** (R) ★ 11:35,1:20,2:15,4:00,4:55,6:40,7:35,9:20,10:15
- **Up in the Air** (R) ★ 12:30,3:10,5:50,8:30
- **C'mas Carol 3D** (PG) 11:55,5:35
- **Armored** (PG–13) ★ 12:10,2:30,5:10,7:30,9:45
- **Brothers** (R) ★ 11:30,2:05,4:40,7:25,10:10
- **Everybody** (PG–13) ★ 11:30,2:05,4:30,7:20,9:55
- **Ninja Assassin** (R) 12:25,2:55,5:30,7:55,10:30
- **Old Dogs** (PG) 3:05 P.M.
- **Planet 51** (PG) 12:40,10:05
- **Precious: Novel** (R) 12:20,2:50,5:20,7:50,10:20
- **The Blind Side** (PG–13) 1:00,3:55,7:00,10:00
- **Fantastic Fox** (PG) 12:05,2:25,4:45,7:05,9:25
- **The Road** (R) 11:45,2:20,5:00,7:40,10:25
- **Twilight: Moon** (PG–13) 11:35,12:45,2:45,5:45,6:50,8:50

Where to go for entertainment? Start here. ZAP 2 it What to Watch www.zap2it.com

CAMPUS CRAWL



Northwestern's Drew Crawford
AP

NORTHWESTERN 90, N.C. A&T 65

Triple threats

If you didn't know any better, you might have thought the Welsh-Ryan crowd was booing with about three and a half minutes to play Sunday.

No, they were "Drew-ing."

Freshman Drew Crawford left the game with 35 points, part of a record-setting game for Northwestern, which crushed North Carolina A&T, 90-65.

The Wildcats shattered school records in both 3-pointers attempted (47) and made (20). Crawford hit 8-of-13 from 3-point land.

ILLINOIS 88, WESTERN MICHIGAN 53

The recruits in attendance Sunday at Assembly Hall were treated to an impressive performance from Illinois. After shaking off early rust, the Illini turned in a commanding performance against Western Michigan en route to an 88-53 victory. Dominique Keller led Illinois with 15 points.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

» DePaul 77, UIC 56
» Niagara 76, Illinois State 68
» Middle Tennessee St. 83, SIU-Edwardsville 58

Woods
AP FILE

BYE, TIGER

Two days after he admitted to marital infidelity and began an "indefinite break" from professional golf, consulting and technology giant Accenture ended its relationship with Tiger Woods, the first major sponsor to completely sever ties with one of the world's best-known athletes following the damaging revelations about Woods' personal life.

Accenture had used Woods in print and TV ads for the past six years, leveraging Woods' image as a diligent, determined athlete who sought perfection. Accenture's ads using Woods were particularly prevalent in airports, aimed at business travelers.

"For the past six years, Accenture and Tiger Woods have had a very successful sponsorship arrangement and his achievements on the golf course have been a powerful metaphor for business success in Accenture's advertising," the company said in a statement Sunday. "However, given the circumstances of the last two weeks, after careful consideration and analysis, the company has determined that he is no longer the right representative for its advertising."

According to the Wall Street Journal, Woods appeared in ads for Accenture in 27 countries. He was removed from the company's Web site late last week.

Accenture becomes the most significant company to drop Woods since his single-car accident Nov. 27 outside his home in Windermere, Fla. That accident helped spur a wave of reports that identified various women who claimed to be mistresses of Woods, who has been married to Elin Nordegren for five years. Woods and Nordegren have a 2-year-old daughter and a 10-month-old son together.

On Saturday, Gillette—which used Woods in ads for shaving cream and razors—said it would discontinue using Woods in such ads, though it did not formally sever ties with the golfer. A company spokesman likened Gillette's position to taking a "timeout."

> ***Golf needs Tiger Woods. We wish them well and the best. I don't know what the best thing to do is. Nobody does. But I know him on the golf course is good for everybody."***
>
> **GOLFER BRAD FAXON**

» Chicagoan Shani Davis claimed his second title in three days, winning the 1,000 meters in the final long-track speedskating World Cup before the Vancouver Olympics. Davis skated the distance in 1 minute, 6.67 seconds Sunday at the Utah Olympic Oval.

BLACKHAWKS 4, TAMPA BAY 0

Blackhawks backup Antti Niemi made 18 saves for his third shutout in seven starts this season, and Marian Hossa had a goal and an assist to lead Chicago past the slumping Tampa Bay Lightning 4-0 on Sunday night.

"Everything is down. It's not just 3-pointers. Even my free throws are down. I don't know. I just can't get it going." Bulls guard John Salmons

» Lake Erie 7, Wolves 3 » Michael Phelps wins 200-yard butterfly at NBAC Christmas meet. » Steve Stricker, Jerry Kelly win Shark Shootout.

watch dog

WHIZZER
redeyesports@tribune.com

I just want to be clear right here, right now: I never had an affair with Tiger. Here now, my TV picks.

NFL

'Game Time Dine'

7:30 p.m. CSN

RedEye Five on Fiver Jen Patterson co-hosts. Woof, woof! That means I approve.

WWE

'Monday Night Raw'

7 p.m. USA

Dennis Miller goes from "Monday Night Football" to "Monday Night Raw." Ouch.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

'Top 10 Football Games of the Year'

8 p.m. Big Ten Network

I'm surprised they could find 10 Big Ten-related games for this list.

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metromix

PARTY POPPERS

NYE '09

10 New Year's Eve parties that stand out from the pack

By Julia Borcherts

Open bar, passed hors d'oeuvres, party favors, champagne toast at midnight ... after a while, all New Year's Eve parties start to sound the same. From quirky themes to celeb appearances, these clubs are setting themselves apart with standout features. But don't worry—they've still got the basics covered. Find ticket purchasing details and more on **metromix.com**.

Crobar
1543 N. Kingsbury St. 312-266-1900

Bid the 2009 economy farewell at a high-energy bash (till 4 a.m.) with a recession-friendly pricetag—it's half the cost of last year's event.
Includes: Premium open bar (8 p.m.-midnight), party favors, balloon drop, champagne toast
Cost: $50; $20 after midnight

The Underground
56 W. Illinois St. 312-644-7600

"Gossip Girl" alert! Partiers who buy VIP tix for New Year's Eve score access to a private performance by Leighton Meester back at the club Jan. 1.
Includes: Table for 4-8 people, a bottle of champagne, premium open bar (8 p.m.-1 a.m.), passed appetizers, dinner buffet, party favors, coat check
Cost: $205 per person; general admission also available ($95)

Party with us!
Ring in the New Year with Metromix and RedEye at sleek tavern Sweetwater, 225 N. Michigan Ave. Includes premium open bar, appetizers, party favors, champagne toast. $75-$100.

Debonair Social Club
1575 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-227-7990

It's double trouble at this Wicker Park club: two dance floors, two drink packages and two time frames. Choose from a premium open bar from 8 p.m.-midnight for $95 or well brands for $65. For an extra $10, extend the open bar till 2 a.m.
Includes: Open bar, party favors, champagne toast
Cost: $65-$105

Enclave
220 W. Chicago Ave. 312-654-0234

The Mad Hatter greets you with a champagne "potion" at this "Alice in Wonderland"-style bash.
Includes: Premium open bar (9 p.m.-1:30 a.m.), appetizer buffet, champagne toast, themed gift bags
Cost: $100 through Dec. 15; $115 after

Roof
201 N. State St. 312-239-9501

Stellar city views from this 27th-floor lounge are the standout at this chic cocktail party.
Includes: Premium open bar, appetizers, champagne toast
Cost: $250

Manor
642 N. Clark St. 312-475-1390
Get two parties for the price of one at this River North ultra-lounge, where DJ Mad spins and performs his party anthem, "Put Your Drinks Up." Then chill at sister spot **Stay** (111 W. Erie St.).
Includes: Premium open bar, appetizers (passed and buffet), champagne toast
Cost: $95 through Dec. 15; $105 after

Cuvee
308 W. Erie St. 312-202-9221

Go formal at a "Casino Royale"-themed soiree featuring an Aston Martin DBS car, "shaken, not stirred" martinis and Bollinger champagne (007's brand) served by butlers and Bond girls.
Includes: Premium open bar (9 p.m.-1 a.m.), passed appetizers, party favors, champagne toast
Cost: $125

Loft Six Ten
1332 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-904-8615

Whether you kick into high gear after midnight or wind down once the ball drops, this Wicker Park lounge has a package to fit your personality: 8 p.m.-midnight for $85 ($150 per couple) or from 8 p.m.-2 a.m. for $105 ($180 per couple).
Includes: Premium open bar, passed apps, champagne toast, coat check
Cost: $75-$105

Old Town Social
455 W. North Ave. 312-266-2277

Get the VIP treatment ($150) with a semi-private booth on a platform behind the bar, complete with your own TV to watch the countdown. Or mingle with the crowd for $115.
Includes: Premium open bar, charcuterie and dessert buffets, party favors, champagne toast
Cost: $115-$150

Angels & Kings
710 N. Clark St. 312-482-8600

Get physical with the Fabulous Ladies of Fitness, who dress as '80s Jane Fonda-style aerobics instructors and spin cheesy, light-rock love songs.
Includes: Premium open bar, snack and dessert buffets, champagne toast, souvenir champagne glass
Cost: $85 through Dec. 20; $99 after

JULIA BORCHERTS IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore
rkpalmore@tribune.com

mon 14

Sunda Social
Sunda, 110 W. Illinois St. 312-644-0500

With an eye toward the 9-to-5 set, the River North hotspot debuts its new weeknight deal, available from 5-7 p.m.: half-price appetizers and a $20 sushi-and-sake pairing option.

Bottles and Brushes
Toasted Ox, 2470 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-697-4752

The itinerant painting-and-cocktailing club takes temporary residence in Lincoln Park. Includes supplies and a canvas to take home, plus appetizers and drink specials. 6 p.m. $40. RSVP required: **bottles-brushes.com.**

7 Plays in 7 Days
City Lit Theater Company, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 773-293-3682

Catch the holiday edition of the theater series that pits local directors against the clock with just one week to ready their assigned play. 8 p.m. $7.

tue 15

Cheers to Champagne
Fox & Obel, 401 E. Illinois St. 312-410-7301

Try bubbly and sparkling wine with L20 sommelier Douglas Marello. Includes a 10 percent discount on wine-shop purchases after class. 6 p.m. $25. RSVP recommended.

The Second City That Never Sleeps
The Second City e.t.c., 1608 N. Wells St. 312-337-3992

The annual 24-hour improv marathon features Second City alumni such as Horatio Sanz with musical guests Jeff Tweedy, Robbie Fulks, Nina Nastasia, Bonnie Prince Billy and others. 6 p.m. $15.

wed 16

Spa Soiree
Spa Space, 161 N. Canal St. 312-466-9585

Calm your wind-whipped exterior with mini-spa services and get cocktails and desserts. Also, browse handbags from K. Amato and Hobo. 4 p.m. $20.

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ABERDEEN
$5 burger baskets, $2 select shots; 1856 W. North Ave. 773-772-5500.

THE GLOBE PUB
$5 burgers, $4 Goose Island Harvest Ale drafts, comedy open mic 8 p.m.; 1934 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-3757.

T'S
$5 burgers or veggie burgers, $6 double pints; 5025 N. Clark St. 773-784-6000.

WITTS
$5 burgers, $3.50 microbrew and import drafts, $10 Coors Light pitchers; 2913 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-528-7032.

MORE MONDAY DEALS

BAD DOG TAVERN
$3 domestic drafts, half-price bottles of wine, $6 pizzas (11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.); 4535 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-334-4040.

BLUE FROG
$2.50 Bud bottles, 25 cent wings (4 p.m.), bingo with prizes 8:30 p.m.; 676 N. La Salle St. 312-943-8900.

BRANDO'S SPEAKEASY
$3 domestic bottles, $4 Blue Moon bottles; 343 S. Dearborn St. 312-265-1823.

BRIDGET MCNEILL'S
Half-price bottles of wine and large pizzas; 420 W. Belmont Ave. 773-248-6654.

BUCKTOWN PUB
$3 domestic bottles; 1658 W. Cortland Ave. 773-394-9898.

THE CEDAR HOTEL
$1 domestic bottles, $5 all appetizers, half-price wings; 1112 N. State St. 312-944-1112.

CREW
$3.75 Peroni pints, $6 flavored margaritas, half-price chicken wings, half-price appetizers (4-6 p.m.); 4804 N. Broadway. 773-784-2739.

CUBBY BEAR
$2 Miller products (excluding 16-ounce cans); 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

DUKE OF PERTH
Buy one entree, get one free; 2913 N. Clark St. 773-477-1741.

ENGLISH
$3 drafts; 444 N. La Salle St. 312-222-6200.

FISCHMAN'S
$2 Coors Light bottles; 4776 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-545-0123.

FIVE STAR BAR
$1 mini-sandwiches, $2.50 Old Style cans; 1424 W. Chicago Ave. 312-850-2555.

GLASCOTT'S
$1 off all beers and cocktails, $13 Miller Lite and Coors Light buckets; 2158 N. Halsted St. 773-281-1205.

HALSTED HARP
$1 High Life and PBR drafts, $3 well drinks, half-price appetizers; 2138 N. Halsted St. 773-348-3665.

HARRIGAN'S
$1.50 PBR drafts and Miller High Life bottles, $3 Jameson shots; 2816 N. Halsted St. 773-248-5933.

HIGH DIVE
$3 Coronas, $5 Cazadores margaritas, $2 steak or chicken tacos; 1938 W. Chicago Ave. 773-235-3483.

IN FINE SPIRITS LOUNGE
Half-price select cocktails; 5420 N. Clark St. 773-334-9463.

KELLY'S PUB
$1 beef tacos, $1 Coors Lite drafts; 949 W. Webster Ave. 773-281-0656.

MAD RIVER
$3 Absolut cocktails, $10 domestic buckets, half-price burgers; 2909 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-935-7500.

MOONSHINE
$3 Bells drafts, $3 craft beers, $4 Absolut and Jameson shots and cocktails, half-price wings; 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686.

MORSELAND
$3 Harp and Guinness pints, $7 absinthe cocktails, live jazz 9 p.m.; 1218 W. Morse Ave. 773-764-8900.

THE ORBIT ROOM
$3 Jameson cocktails, half-price wings; 2959 N. California Ave. 773-588-8540.

PASHA
$1 Miller Lite bottles; 802 W. Randolph St. 312-243-4442.

THE PONY
$4 Guinness drafts, $15 Coors Light buckets; half-price grilled cheese, burgers and chicken sliders; 1638 W. Belmont Ave. 773-828-5055.

ROCKS LAKEVIEW
$4 Guinness drafts, $4 Jameson shots; 3463 N. Broadway. 773-472-0493.

SOCIAL TWENTY-FIVE
$3 domestic bottles, $5 bombs, $5 Jameson shots; 25 W. Hubbard St. 312-670-2200.

TANTRUM
$5 Absolut apple martinis and cosmos; 1023 S. State St. 312-939-9160.

UNION PARK
$3 Blue Moon, Sierra Nevada and Dos Equis drafts, $5 Captain Morgan keep-the-cup cocktails, half-price steak paninis; 228 S. Racine Ave. 312-243-9002.

VINES ON CLARK
$3 you-call-its, half-price food menu; 3554 N. Clark St. 773-327-8572.

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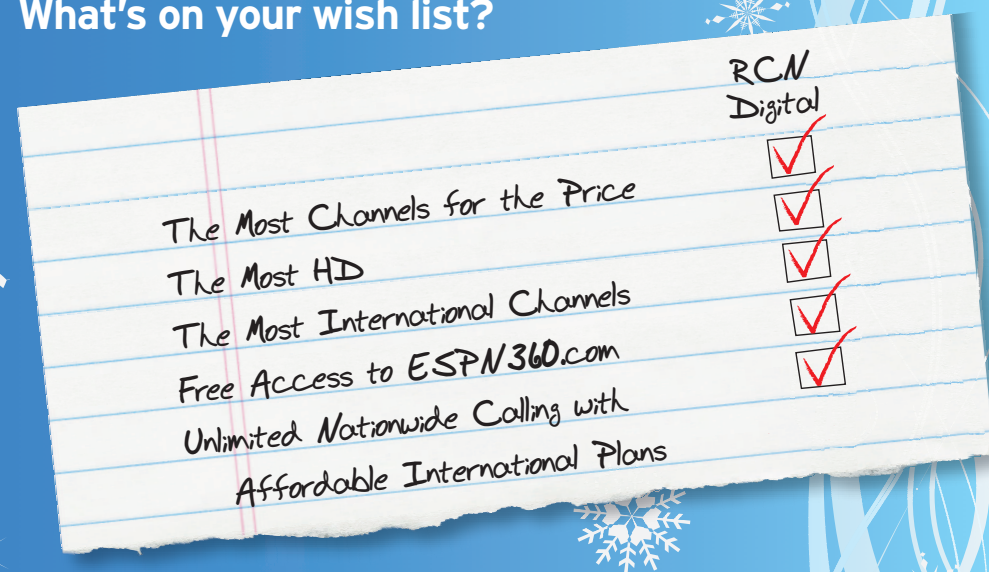
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War on Mars

30 Seconds to Mars wins EMI lawsuit

Los Angeles Times

Jared Leto was beside himself when he opened a recent letter addressed to the 30 Seconds to Mars singer.

It was from Olivia de Havilland, the "Gone With the Wind" actress and Paris resident who, in a roundabout way, helped save the band's career.

In 2008, the group was staring down a $30 million lawsuit from its parent label, EMI, over future albums the label claimed the band owed the company. But a contract case involving de Havilland decades ago seemed to offer legal precedent for a way out.

"The California Appeals Court ruled that no service contract in California is valid after seven years, and it became known as the 'de Havilland law' after she used it to get out of her contract with Warner Bros.," Leto said. "We used the same statute to resolve our lawsuit."

Because of her association with that law, Leto had reached out to de Havilland to interview her for an as-yet-unreleased documentary he was filming about the making of the album. She declined to participate, but she agreed to meet with him and the two remained in touch—though Leto says he was taken aback when he received her handwritten missive.

"I'm going to visit her in Paris to thank her," Leto said.

Leto is reluctant to discuss any particulars of the lawsuit, which ended with 30 Seconds to Mars—Leto, his brother and drummer Shannon and guitarist Tomo Milicevic—back under the EMI label umbrella. The experience left Leto with a disconnect about how otherwise friendly, individual faces can quickly turn ugly when business dealings are involved.

"The idea of a corporation is a tricky one. It's a shell for the people within it, and though we've lost a lot of our supporters at EMI from layoffs, there are still mostly good people there," he said.

That sense of confusion and disappointment informs the dark tone of the band's new album, "This Is War." Yet the collection also is the most confident-sounding thing the band has done. It owes a great deal to producer Mark Ellis, who said the stress of the suit made the "This Is War" sessions an often physical trial for the band.

"There were so many dark days," Ellis said. "A bit of hopelessness and depression are useful in galvanizing artists, but I feel like I really had to help lift them out of it. Jared had the worst back problems in the studio from the physical stress of holding up the band under the lawsuit."

Ellis' sure production helped the musicians break out of their wall-of-guitars contemporary rock sound (there's even a vocal cameo from Kanye West on "Hurricane").

They also recalibrated their sense of what—and who—truly was important to them. One of the most prominent effects on the album is a catalog of found sounds recorded at various "summits," where fans came to sing hooks en masse at venues including the Avalon in Hollywood.

"So much of this album was about reclaiming public space for art," Leto said. "We shut down Hollywood Boulevard. We shut down the Santa Monica Pier. It was so wonderful to own both sides of the road. We tried to close down the freeway, but that's a lot harder to do than we thought."

30 Seconds to Mars
When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday
Where: House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St.
Tickets: Sold Out

MONDAY CONCERTS

ANDREW BIRD
8 p.m. $35-$40. Fourth Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut St. 312-787-4570.

BREAKING BENJAMIN, SICK PUPPIES, JANUS
7:30 p.m. Sold out. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

THE CARDBOARD SANGRIA SHOWCASE: DARLING, THE NOTHINGHEADS, BABY AND HIDE
8 p.m. $5. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

GLEAN INFUSION, THE OUTBREAKS, LAKE SIGNS, LIKE A SUPER HERO
8:30 p.m. $7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

JEFF LINDBURG'S CHICAGO JAZZ ORCHESTRA
5 p.m. $5. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

JOHN GOLDMAN'S QUADRANGLE
8 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

JULIANI ENSEMBLE
12:15 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630.

MONDAY NIGHT LIVE
7:30 p.m. No cover; $15 dining purchase required. Petterino's, 150 N. Dearborn St. 312-422-0150.

NATHAN ANGELO, MICAH DALTON, CLAIRE STAHLECKER
8 p.m. $7. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

NICK MAZZARELLA TRIO
9 p.m. Free. Morseland, 1218 W. Morse Ave. 773-764-8900.

OPEN MIC
8 p.m. Free. Davenport's (in the piano bar), 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-278-1830.

PAT MCCURDY
9 p.m. $6. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. **housecallent.com**

PATRICIA BARBER TRIO
9 p.m. $7. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

TYPHANIE MONIQUE AND NEAL ALGER
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

WHITNEY YOUNG MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT CHOIR
Noon. Free. Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St. 312-747-4300.

YOKO NOGE AND THE JAZZ ME BLUES BAND
9 p.m. $10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

THE YOLKS, TYLER JON TYLER, SLEEPOVERS
9:30 p.m. Free. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

Nathan Angelo

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Administrative Asssitant	AMERICAN NUCLEAR SOCIETY	La Grange Park, IL	CB316402
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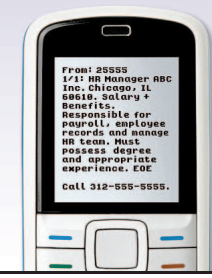
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DIRECTOR, RESPIRATORY SERVICES	VALPARAISO, IN	Valparaiso, IN	CB325027
FT Medical Records Specialist	HealthPort Technologies, LLC	Skokie	CB009178
Healthcare	COLLEGE OF DUPAGE	Glen Ellyn	CB316450
Healthcare	GOTTLIEB MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	Melrose Park	CB315740
Medical Billing Specialists	HEALTHCARE	Schaumburg	CB313401
Medical Opportunites	MEDASSURANT	Chicagoland	CB322073
Medical Records	MIDWEST ORTHOPEDICS	Chicago	CB320655
Physical/Occupational Therapis	Med. Group	Chicago	CB009225
Physician	DIVERSIFIED EMERGENCY SERVICES	Chicago	CB316449
PT Mental Health Professional	ILLINOIS YOUTH CENTER	Chicago	CB313249
RN's/LPN's & C.N.A.'s	IMPERIAL OF HAZEL CREST	Hazel Crest	CB310806
Surgical Physician Assistant	CARDIAC SURGERY	McHenry County	CB313478

HUMAN RESOURCES >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Employment & Income Specialist	GROWING CHICAGO FIRM	Chicago, IL	CB314796
Management	CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS	Chicago	CB317784

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Computer Programmer Analyst	RAJA FOODS	Skokie, IL	CB320663
Info. Technology Operations Mg	COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY	Grayslake, IL	CB313150
IT	ERESOURCES CONSULTANTS INC.	Naperville	CB314095
IT Professionals	VERINON TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS L	Arlington Heights, IL	CB310071

LEGAL >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Attorney/Litigator	Arnold and Kadjan	Chicago	CB009227

MANAGEMENT >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Area Manager	PREMIER UNLOADING CO.	Chicago, IL	CB316158
Product Development Mgr.	COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL	Chicago	CB308426
Supervisor of Buildings and Gr	RICH TOWNSHIP H.S. DISTRICT 22	Olympia Fields	CB309057

MANUFACTURING >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Executive Officer for Manufact	UNITED STATES MINT	Washington D.C.	CB316150
Scheduler	HSC	Cicero	CB009147

PRINTING >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Lead Pressman & Feeder	COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL	Western Suburbs	CB307914

QUALITY CONTROL >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Quality Assurance Inspector	FOREST PARK MANUFACTURER OF AI	Forest Park	CB323510

REAL ESTATE >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Property Manager	KANE PROP MANAGEMENT	Chicago, IL	CB320591

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Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
General Mgrs. & Assistant Mgrs	PANERA BREAD	Chicagoland	CB325295
Restaurant Opportunities	CORNER BAKERY CAFE	Chicagoland	CB318354
Restaurant Opportunities	JASON'S DELI	Chicagoland	CB313394
Restaurant Opportunities	PORTILLO'S & BARNELLI'S	Chicagoland	CB310700

SALES >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
SPECIALIST SALES REP	EXC. INCOME POT.	CHICAGO AREA	CB009154
Advertising Representative	TRIBUNE INTERACTIVE	Chicago	CB317870
Appointment Setter	A MARKETING COMPANY	Various	CB308779
B to B Inside Sales	ABS	Buffalo Grove	CB316274
Sales Agents	FORTUNE 300 TRANSPORTATION COM	Various	CB317932
Sales Manager	EVONIK INDUSTRIES	Chicago	CB318253
Sales Rep	EMS	Various	CB317850
Sales Reps/Outside Field Reps	GREEN ENERGY SALES	Suburbs	CB317234
Steel Sales	ACCURATE METALS	Rockford	CB311290

SECURITY >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Background Investigator	OMNISEC INTERNATIONAL INVESTIG	chicago	CB313176
Security Officers	GLENBROOK SECURITY SERVICES	North West Suburbs	CB322091

SKILLS, CRAFTS & TRADES >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
HVAC Technician	TEMPERATURE SERVICES	North Suburbs	CB309974
Maintenance Painter	OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Des Plaines	CB308785

SOCIAL SERVICES >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Case Manager	GRASMERE PLACE	Chicago, IL	CB310585
Housing Case Manager	EMPLOYMENT & EMPLOYER SERVICES	Chicago	CB314101
LCSW/LCPC	GROWING CHICAGO FIRM	Chicago, IL	CB325500
Licensed Nursing Home Admin.	WHEATON CARE CENTER	Wheaton	CB313756
QMRP	GOLFVIEW DEVELOPMENTAL CNTR	Des Plaines	

TECHNICIAN >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Appliance Service Technicians	ABT ELECTRONICS	Glenview	CB315004
Electronic Technician	HYTEL GROUP INC.	Hampshire, IL	CB321908

TRANSPORTATION >>

Position	Company	Location	WEB ID
Trucking Company now Leasing O	Midwest Intermodal Trucking Co	Chicago	CB007710

pop

Sitting disease?

DOCTORS: SIMPLE MOVEMENTS CAN HELP YOU AVOID BECOMING A VICTIM OF YOUR CHAIR

By Leonor Vivanco
REDEYE

Chris Barry's body was out of whack.

An education specialist for children in the suburbs, he spent long hours—sometimes three to four hours a day just driving—sitting in his car and at his office. He hunched over his laptop at his desk and slouched in the driver's seat. He cradled his phone between his neck and shoulder.

Barry said he developed massive headaches "so bad I could barely think." And his body ached from neck, back and shoulder pain. "It was getting really bad to the point where I was taking Advil three to four times a day," he said.

Count the 33-year-old Ukrainian Village resident among the legion of people who suffer from what some researchers call the sitting disease—the ill effects associated with being chained to a desk chair all day.

For long-toiling office and administrative support workers—23 million, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics—aches and pains aren't uncommon. But those aren't all they have to worry about. Having a sedentary job is associated with fatigue, slowed circulation and metabolism, weight gain and obesity, which can lead to an increased risk of heart disease and diabetes, according to research.

Just how much time do we spend on our butts? A Vanderbilt University study published in 2008 in the American Journal of Epidemiology reported more than 6,300 men and women spent 55 percent of their waking time—7.7 hours a day or 54 hours a week—in sedentary behaviors. Such behaviors where little energy is expended, the study noted, are associated with time spent sitting, reclining or lying down during waking hours at home, work, school, in transit and during leisure time.

"The body actually functions very differently when you're sitting," said Dr. James Levine, director of the Active Life research team at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. "It functions very differently, not in a calorie-burning way only but also in the way it handles insulin, the way it handles cholesterol, triglycerides."

A couple hours into her eight to 10-hour workday, Elizabeth Saldana of McKinley Park walks around the office, stretches and does shoulder shrugs to give her neck and forearm tension relief.

"The only thing that seems to have helped alleviate the pain is what doctors tell you to do, which is exercise, stretching and making sure you're moving the muscles more," said Saldana, 32, who works in the software field for Cook County's hospital system. "The longer I'm away from my desk and doing desk work, the less aggravated the pain is," Saldana said. In the book "Move a Little, Lose a Lot," which Levine co-authored and published earlier this year, he notes the average desk-bound worker logs 5,000 to 6,000 steps a day. That compares to a pedometer study he cites that found an average Amish man—part of a traditionally more active demographic—logged 18,000 steps per day and the average Amish woman 14,000 steps per day while doing their chores. Levine advocates non-exercise activities to get people standing and moving throughout the day. He says simple activities such as walking to lunch or climbing the stairs can burn as many as 2,100 calories during the workweek. His suggestions all are things desk workers can do without going to a gym. LVIVANCO@TRIBUNE.COM

Taking a stand not always a bad thing

Remember the "Seinfeld" episode in which George brought the security guard a rocking chair because he felt bad the guard was on his feet all day?

Turns out standing for a long time isn't all that bad. But experts point out ways to prevent injury.

"Being on your feet is not the kiss of death. You're standing all day and burning calories," said Dr. Sheila Dugan, associate professor in the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Rush University Medical Center.

Workers who stand but move around are better off than workers those who stand still because the active workers use their muscles, helping blood return back to the heart, Dugan said.

Victor Mora, 27, a restaurant server who lives in Logan Square, said he prefers standing to sitting at work because he's burning calories throughout the day.

"I'd rather have it take a toll on my feet and be sore than have a numb ass," he said. Mora runs regularly and stretches out his legs to stay in good shape. And after working an eight-hour shift at Grand Lux, the first thing he does when he gets home is slip on a pair of flip-flops to give his feet a break.

Scott Flack, 25, of Bridgeport, who works in guest relations at the Hyatt downtown, gives his feet a break during lunch. Even if he's not eating, he says he finds somewhere to sit. For eight to 12 hours, he's standing in dress shoes behind a hotel counter, where he feels lethargic. "Just standing in one position does tire out your legs," he said. "My back cracks a lot more. Everything feels compressed."

Workers who stand all day should move around at least a little, lean into a wall or counter top and prop one foot up, experts said.

"They want to be changing their position, firing their muscles, shifting their weight from one leg to the other," Dugan said.

The most common complaint Dr. Charlotte Covello, a podiatrist in the Loop, hears from patients is heel and arch pain.

"The types of injuries that come with prolonged period of standing are largely dependent on activities you do while standing and the shoes, of course," she said. There's an increased risk of stress fractures in feet for workers walking a lot, like waiters who carry heavy items, she said.

People who stand for hours should wear shoes with a supportive arch and a thick rubber sole, not shoes that are soft or flimsy, Covello said.

Feet swollen from standing on them all day? Elevate them for about 20 minutes for relief, she said. LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEYE

BODY LANGUAGE

Sitting all day is stressful on the body, especially when people don't sit properly, said Dr. Robert DiDomenico, a chiropractor at Progressive Chiropractic in Lincoln Park.

"A great percentage of people say, 'I don't know what I did' when they come in," he said. "The truth is they're doing something every day by sitting. It's called microtrauma."

Sitting puts pressure on the lower back. And poor posture—sitting pitched forward with the head turtling to look the computer screen—can lead to muscle strain and pain from neck to lower back, he said. Nerves can get pinched, which can cause headaches, he said.

At the office, workers should take a break about every half hour or so to stand up and change their position, experts say. Here are a few more details to keep in mind if you spend most of your time sitting behind a desk. **LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEYE**

HEAD Sitting in front of a computer for a prolonged period of time can lead to dry eye, eye strain, blurred vision and neck and back aches, according to the American Optometric Association. Some people lean forward to see the screen, causing pain-inducing poor posture, DiDomenico said. When sitting at the computer, sit back upright against the chair. If you draw an imaginary line from your chin to the monitor, the line should hit the center of your screen, he said. If using a laptop, it should hit the top of the monitor.

NECK Make sure your head is directly over your shoulders, said Dr. Sheila Dugan, associate professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Rush University. If you read looking down or cradle the phone, you're not supporting the normal curvature of the spine, thus putting strain on the joints and muscles, DiDomenico said. If done repeatedly and for long hours, it can cause trauma to the joints, muscles and ligaments and could lead to arthritis, he said. He suggests people, who work at desks, to take two to three breaks in the day, stretching for 15 seconds in each position: chin falling toward the chest and back, head turning side to side, and head falling toward each shoulder.

BACK When sitting, take out anything in your back pockets, said Jim Wrobel of the Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine. Sitting on a wallet can cause you to put weight on the sciatic nerve in lower back, which can lead to sharp shooting pain, numbness or tingling in back, legs, buttocks, he said.

Before you get up to take a break, take a minute to sit tall and stretch your arms above your head and then back to open your chest, to help relieve tension and stiffness, he said. Sit in a chair with proper lumbar support, DiDomenico said. When doing tasks, the seat should be slightly tilted forward and the chair back adjusted for support, he said. Hips should be higher than the knees.

WRISTS Excessive flexing or too much tilting of hands up and down can strain your forearms, fingers and hands, DiDomenico said. Using a wrist rest and doing circles with your wrist and gently stretching your fingers can help, he said.

LEGS Dangling your feet from the chair can cause you to slide forward, which is not good for the discs between the vertebrae, Dugan said. Ideally, feet should be flat on the ground and knees should be bent at 90 degrees. Don't sit under one leg or with legs crossed because that shifts the pelvis, causing a strain on your lower back, DiDomenico said. Hooking your feet to the chair's legs compresses the back of the knees and pulls you forward, which isn't good posture, he said. Using a foot rest and flexing and extending your feet can help increase circulation, he said.

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romance planet

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HAPPY B-DAY!

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21

The new moon in your sign is increasing your confidence. You know that, even though life sucks at the moment, you will survive. A romance might not, however. You're at a serious turning point, and it's make-up or break-up time.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan.19

You'll hear some unexpected sexy talk from someone, courtesy of flirty Mercury. A neighbor has been secretly lusting after you and will finally spill the beans. Or a former co-worker will get up the nerve to ask you out after months of silent agony. The plot thickens.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Mars has been turning you into a space cadet, but as it goes retrograde, your brains will come back online. You'll realize you were right to delay ordering that foreign bride off the Internet. And you were wise to avoid proposing to that on-again, off-again boyfriend.

Pisces
Feb. 19-March 20

Others around you could be going through their usual holiday freak-out, but you're calmly sailing along. The sun has you doing your own thing. If your honey is stressed out, provide some sensual massages and healing words.

Aries
March 21-April 19

Your mind and body are out of synch. Blame it on lusty Venus. Your loins are throbbing, and you're eager to have as much sexy fun as possible. Unfortunately, you're attracted to someone who is totally unsuitable as a life partner. Oh well.

Taurus
April 20-May 20

As Mars sneaks into retrograde, you're slowing down. If you've been dating a dozen women at once, you'll pick just one to spend winter with. If you've been hitting the online personals, searching for a sugar daddy, you'll realize you're perfectly happy alone with your cat.

Gemini
May 21-June 21

You're usually gifted at communication, but the moon opposite your sign is making it harder for you to impress girls with your banter. And it's nearly impossible to get a guy interested in your witty remarks. Don't worry—your Jedi powers will return.

Cancer
June 22-July 22

You could be pining for your high school sweetheart, wondering if you should look her up. Or you're lusting after your former flame, regretting that you broke up with him last summer. Mercury is really messing with your head.

Leo
July 23-Aug. 22

You thought a relationship was moving forward, but now you're not so sure. The moon has you wondering if this is love or just love for the moment. Don't force yourself to make a final decision for another few weeks.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Chatty Mercury has you sending out holiday cards, hosting the perfect party and sending out cheerful e-mails to acquaintances. It's OK to socialize, but don't neglect that certain someone just because you're too darn busy.

Libra
Sept. 23-Oct. 23

You're going back and forth about someone. Saturn is showing you that you have deep feelings for the cutie in your life. At the same time, you're so caught up in your own melodrama that you aren't focused on your relationship. Find a balance.

Scorpio
Oct. 24-Nov. 21

An exhibitionist sun is inspiring you to show off your newest romance. You'll indulge in steamy public displays of affection at a party, club or musical event. Meanwhile, you'll "accidentally" show people naked photos of your honey that you left on your cell phone or computer.

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			7		6			5
	1		6	4	9	7		
		9	3	1	8		6	
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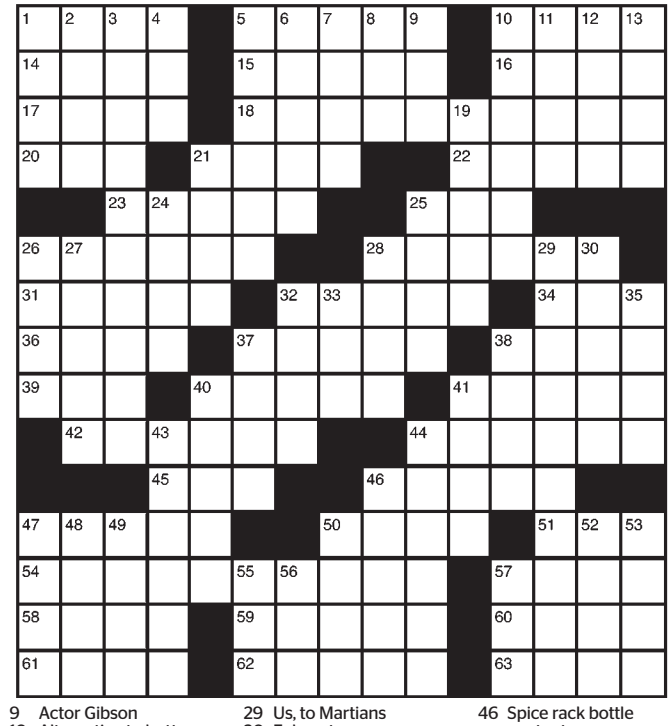
1	9	3	8	6	7	5	2	4
6	5	7	3	2	4	9	8	1
2	8	4	9	1	5	3	7	6

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

ACROSS
1 Stumble
5 Play a guitar
10 Ardor
14 Top-rated
15 Self-confidence
16 "Othello" role
17 __ Scotia
18 Flowering tree
20 Music from Jamaica
21 Farmland unit
22 Rattled
23 Is in need of
25 __ out a living; get by
26 Grown-ups
28 Stowed away
31 Harvests
32 Piece of silverware
34 Paintings and sculptures
36 Flows back
37 Blockhead
38 Hair color
39 Feel sick
40 Baseball's Hank __
41 Lustrous fabric
42 House of worship
44 Role on TV's "Frasier"
45 Gorilla
46 Roll with a hole
47 Spin
50 Pork products
51 Wrath
54 Evildoing
57 Winter weather forecast
58 __ vera
59 Eagle's nest
60 Make eyes at
61 Mailed
62 __ in; inhabit
63 Addict

DOWN
1 Sunbathes
2 Chess piece
3 Priceless
4 Tiny vegetable
5 Dots
6 Pleasure trips
7 Sushi component
8 Fourth-largest nation: abbr.



9 Actor Gibson
10 Alternative to buttons
11 Devours
12 Malarial fever
13 Very confused
19 Canadian territory
21 Goes on stage
24 Matterhorn's range
25 Prestigious British school
26 Vicinity
27 Left-hand ledger entry
28 In just a bit
29 Us, to Martians
30 Exhaust
32 Like a boil
33 In favor of
35 Tim Daly's sis
37 Boy or man
38 Stare with open mouth
40 Red Delicious or McIntosh
41 Droops
43 Grocery store
44 Maiden
46 Spice rack bottle contents
47 "__ the night before Christmas..."
48 Stratagem
49 Computer screen image
50 In this location
52 Acting part
53 Pitcher
55 Papa
56 Unused
57 Old French coin

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Had enough yet?

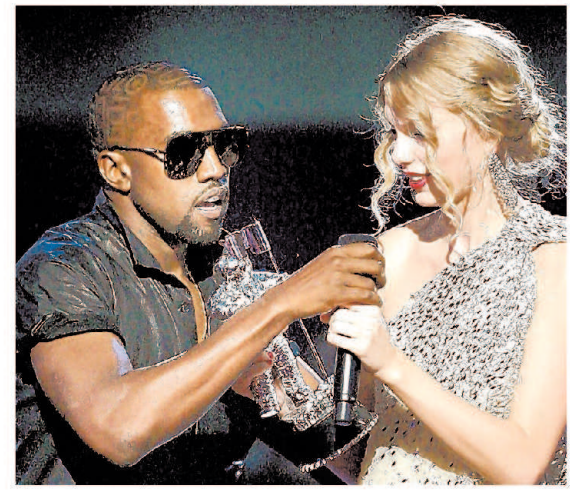
Sting says today's music lacks novelty and that the industry is in a crisis and is "played out." "You need to discover something new. That's what human beings need: newness, novelty," he said recently, according to **people.com**. What other things/people are played out? Here's a highly subjective list. EMILY ROSENBAUM MAKA, REDEYE

Leggings »
Lindsay Lohan seems to be at least partly responsible for their popularity. Look into wearing real pants sometimes.

Auto-tuning
Just sing.

Documenting Tiger Woods' alleged mistresses
What? A famous man cheated on his wife? Shocking, but there are more important things going on in the world.

Photos of celebrities buying stuff
Did Halle Berry get a venti soy mocha latte? Is that a cucumber in Jessica Alba's cart?



Spoofing Kanye West
Here's hoping Taylor Lautner's "SNL" parody this weekend of Kanye's interruption of Taylor Swift is the last one.

Breathlessly speculating about which Hollywood couple will split next
Fergie and Josh? Reese and Jake?

"The Real Housewives" franchise
The ones currently out there are enough. No one needs to see "The Real Housewives of Canton."

liz in the loop

LIZ CROKIN
liz@lizcrokin.com

MORE ONLINE

For more, check out Liz's blog at **thesebootsaremadeforstalking.com**.

Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Another Speidi attack planned

Delgado

"The Hills" star and "Bromance" producer Frankie Delgado made a trip to the Windy City over the weekend where he revealed that the world may be getting more of what it doesn't need: Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt.

Delgado skipped out on his buddy Lauren Conrad's holiday party in L.A. to make an appearance at Manor on Friday night where he chatted up my intern Michael Majer. Delgado revealed he is in talks to produce a spin-off show with the most overexposed couple in reality TV.

"It's funny to hear, but Spencer has good ideas," Delgado said

He also singled himself out as possibly the only person on the planet who is actually a fan of Speidi. "I love them!" he said. "I'm a fan of what they have created. ... They've turned reality TV into a spectacle." He's got that right!

Delgado also dished about his bestie and "Bromance" co-producer, Brody Jenner, and his complicated relationship with girlfriend Jayde Nicole. He said Jenner loves Nicole, even though the two battle at times.

Delgado says he has a girlfriend who leads a low-key life back in L.A., but he wouldn't elaborate on his romance. Delgado now is gearing up for season six of "The Hills" and promises to stay out of the drama. We won't hold our breath.

SIGHTINGS

« Jay Cutler (left) dined at Rockit Bar and Grill on Monday night. » Nathan Lane and Bebe Neuwirth starred in the world premiere of "The Addams Family" on Wednesday at the Ford Center/Oriental Theatre. » Michael Bay, in town scouting locations for "Transformers 3," hung out at Cuvee on Thursday night. » "America's Next Top Model" winner Jaslene Gonzalez hosted the Mix Media Group's fashion show at Lumen on Thursday night. » Frankie Delgado dined at Sunda on Friday night. » Boston Celtic players, including Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce and Ray Allen, partied at Cuvee on Saturday night.

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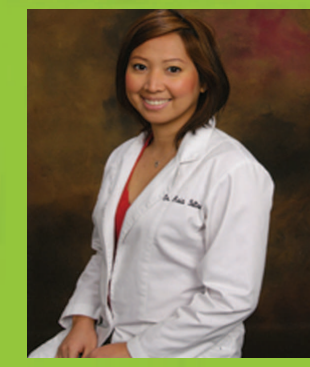

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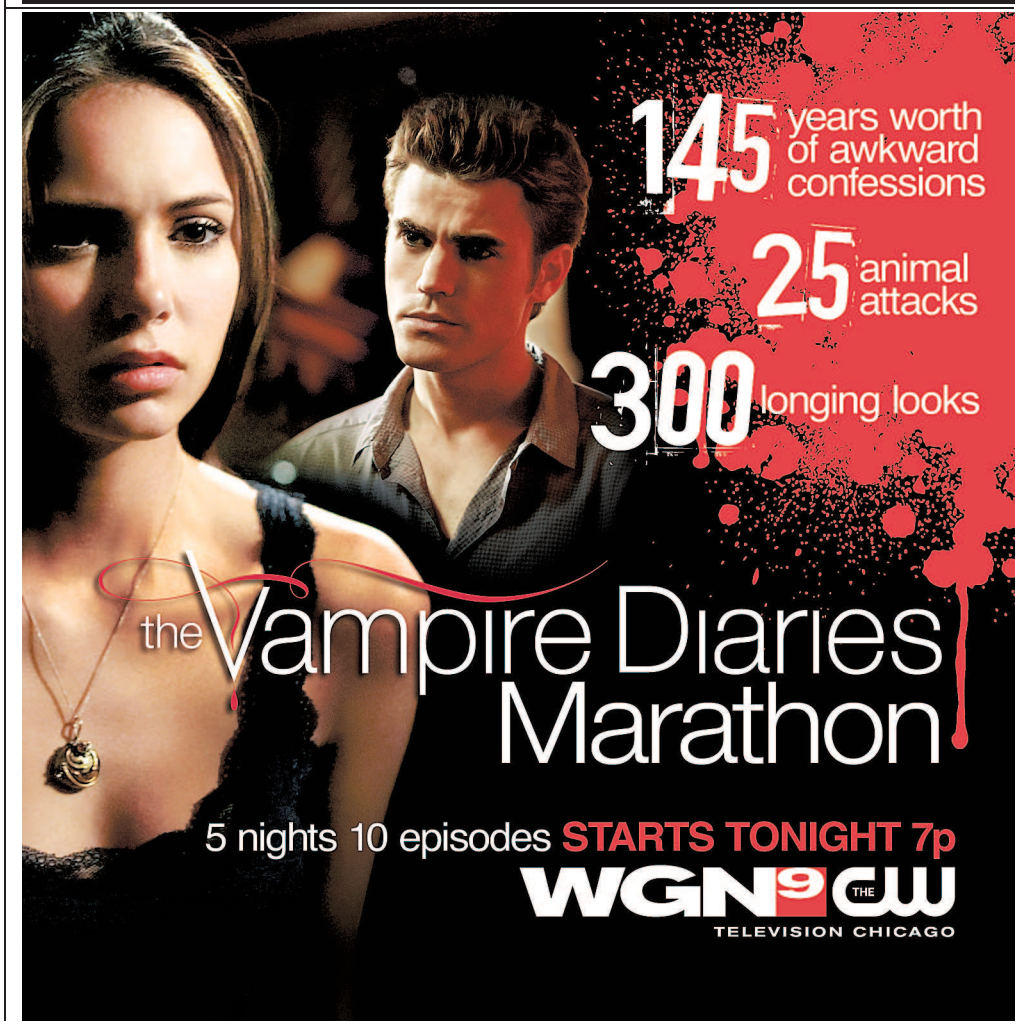
145 years worth of awkward confessions
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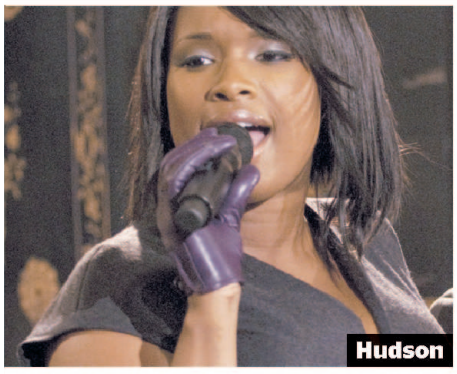
Hudson

Christmas dreamgirl

Jennifer Hudson would like to share Christmas with you. Her first holiday special, "Jennifer Hudson: I'll Be Home for Christmas," will air at 8 p.m. Monday on WLS-Ch. 7 (ABC). Hudson filmed all over the city, including on Michigan Avenue, the Chicago River and at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Vocational Career Academy. The special celebrates her life in the Windy City before she became famous on "American Idol" and then won an Oscar for "Dreamgirls." More at **redeyechicago.com/showpatrol**.

Petticoats, zombies—hell yes!

Natalie Portman apparently is into the undead. The "Brothers" actress is slated to star in and produce "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies," a film based on the best-selling book, according to **variety.com**. How dreadful!

Assault won't air

MTV has decided not to air the "Jersey Shore" footage of Snooki getting punched in the face at a bar on the next episode—footage many people already have seen on the Internet and in promos. "What happened to Snooki was a crime and obviously extremely disturbing," an MTV spokesman wrote in a statement.

THE DIGIT

$25 million

The amount raked in over the weekend by box-office-topper "The Princess and the Frog," Disney's first hand-drawn animated feature since 2004, **eonline.com** reports.

REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

DIDDY: ADOPT ME, PLEASE

Sean 'Diddy' Combs wants to be adopted by President Obama.

Diddy, who tells Playboy he feels partly responsible for getting Obama elected because he thinks hip-hop played a big role, also tells the mag: "If God said I could pick one person to be my father, I'd want to be Sean Combs Obama. That's how dope he is. I hope he reads this interview and adopts me. I wouldn't even need to be in the will. I got my own money."

Mo'Nique

Waltz

'The Hurt Locker'

It hurts so good

"The Hurt Locker" people must be feeling good after this weekend. The war drama was named best film by the L.A. Film Critics Association and the Boston Society of Film Critics, and the American Film Institute included the flick in its list of the year's 10 best. "Hurt Locker" director Kathryn Bigelow also was given top honors from the L.A. and Boston critics, and the groups each gave supporting-actress honors to Mo'nique for "Precious" and supporting-actor accolades to Christoph Waltz for "Inglourious Basterds." Boston gave the best-actor prize to Jeremy Renner for "Locker" and Meryl Streep was named best actress for "Julie & Julia." The L.A. folks named Jeff Bridges best actor for "Crazy Heart" and Yolande Moreau best actress for the French film "Seraphine."